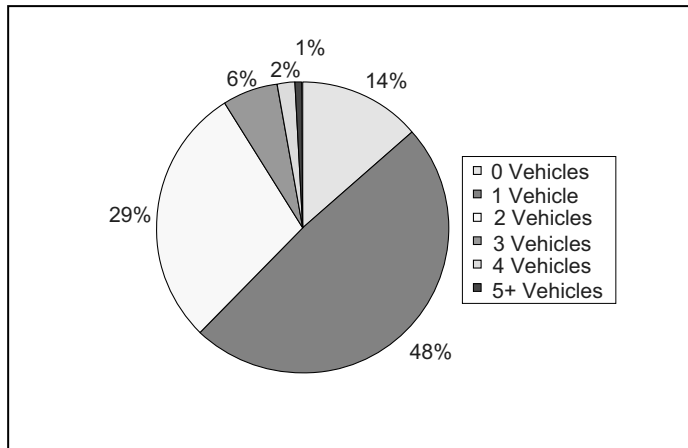
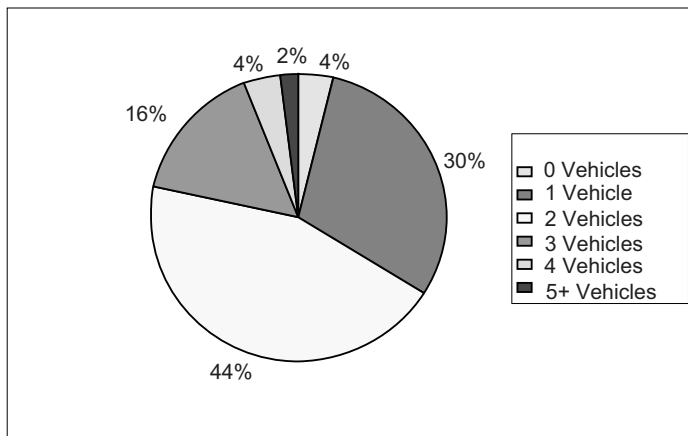
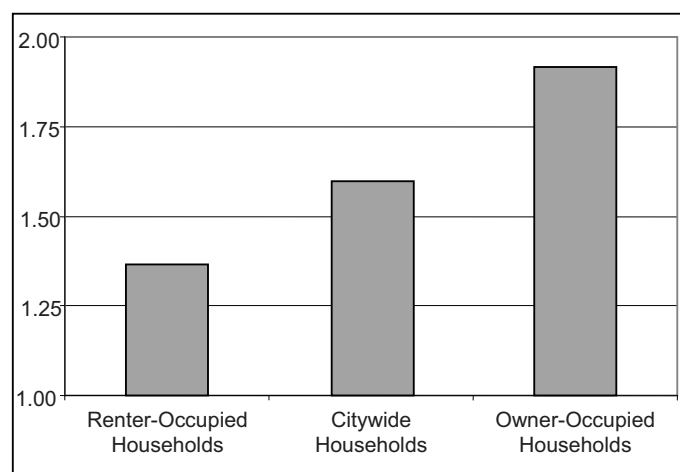


Figure 2-5: Renter Household Vehicle Ownership

Source: 2000 Census.

Figure 2-6: Owner Household Vehicle Ownership

Source: 2000 Census.

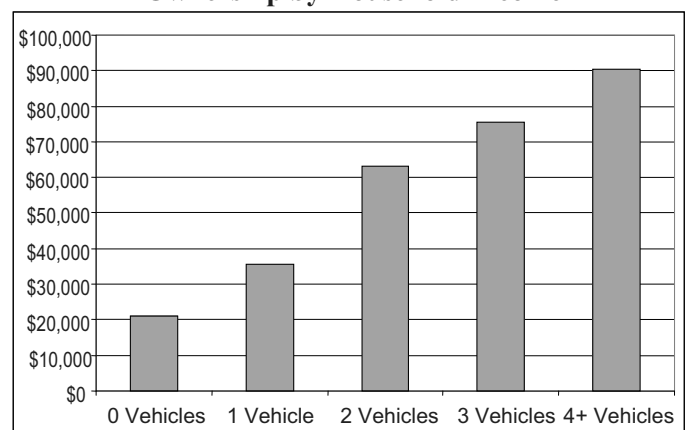
Figure 2-7: Average Household Vehicle Ownership

Source: 2000 Census.

Figure 2-9 illustrates the spatial distribution of “no car households” in Santa Barbara and the region.

2.5 Household Income

While 2000 Census data show that Santa Barbara resident’s per capita income is 40% above the national average, there are wide variations in income with over 13% of the population living below the Federal poverty level. National data consistently show a direct relationship between income and vehicle ownership. Figure 2-8 illustrates the connection between household income and vehicle ownership in Santa Barbara: while the median annual income of a household with no vehicles is roughly \$20,000, the median income of a household with two vehicles is over three times that figure (\$63,150)².

Figure 2-8: Santa Barbara Household Vehicle Ownership by Household Income

Source: 2000 Census.

For comparison, 2000 Census data indicates that 34% of Santa Barbara County households have annual incomes of \$25,000 or less. Figure 2-10 illustrates the spatial distribution of low-income households in Santa Barbara and the region.

2.6 Key Issues and Opportunities

The preceding summary suggests the following issues and opportunities relevant to the aim of reducing the rate of growth of peak-hour vehicle trips:

- Compared to national averages, Santa Barbara residents and workers already have a relatively lower rate of drive-alone commuting and relatively higher rates of commuting by alternative modes.
- Santa Barbara residents also have lower-than-average rates of vehicle ownership with over one-third of owner households and nearly two-thirds of renter households owning either one or no cars.

² The 2000 US Census defines a household as all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence.